

Hawaii Marine



Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke | Hawaii Marine

Marines and sailors from Marine Aircraft Group 24 stage in front of the USS Missouri Battleship Memorial following the first ever MAG-24 safety and awareness ride, Feb. 8. The safety and awareness ride began at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, followed the Interstate H-3 to H-1 Highways and ended at the famed memorial. The ride was created in order to teach Marines and sailors how to ride motorcycles correctly and safely in large groups.

Work hard, ride hard: MAG-24 holds safety awareness ride

Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

A sprinkling of afternoon rain dissipated and the sky cleared as riders from Marine Aircraft Group 24 gathered with their motorcycles for the first MAG-24 safety and awareness ride to the USS Missouri Battleship Memorial on Ford Island, Hawaii, Feb. 8.

The ride was created to teach Marines and sailors how to ride motorcycles safely in larger groups. Staff Sgt. Shiloh Linden, the motorcycle safety president for MAG-24, asked Col. Paul Fortunato, the MAG-24 commanding officer, for permission to hold MAG-24's first safety and awareness ride. Fortunato approved the ride, which is now available in place of the quarterly safety ride base motorcycle riders are mandated to complete.

"Complete the required motorcycle training, always wear the proper personal protective equipment, and ride within the limits and capabilities of yourself and your motorcycle," Fortunato said.

Before the ride began, all motorcycles were inspected to ensure good working condition, and motorcyclists were separated

into groups of 10 riders. There were a total of 82 riders, creating eight different groups that traveled to the famed memorial.

The riders took a route from the interstate H-3 to H-1 highways onto Ford Island, allowing riders at different levels of proficiency the chance to travel in a large group. They practiced using hand signals and blinker lights as they transitioned between lanes on the highway.

The rearmost biker in the group blocked off the targeted lane to all traffic. Once he was in place, the coast was clear for the other riders to safely pass from one lane to the next.

"Riding in a big group can be difficult for someone who has little to no experience," Linden said. "Around 20 riders here today haven't ridden with other people in a large group before, so this gives inexperienced riders a safe opportunity for their first time."

Harley Davidsons, sport bikes and cruisers were among the bikes mixed into the group cruising down the highway. There were no restrictions concerning the type of motorcycle, allowing all MAG-24 riders to participate in the trip to the memorial. The experienced riders shared stories from many hours on the road with new riders,

helping the transition from four wheels to two.

"I have been riding for more than 10 years and I enjoy the opportunity to get out and do something I love," said Cpl. Christopher Herod, an electronic systems technician with MAG-24. "New riders can always learn tips and tricks from those who love to ride and ride often."

Once the riders arrived at USS Missouri Battleship Memorial, they parked their bikes and enjoyed the opportunity to tour the memorial for free.

Several bikers sought out a bite to eat while they waited for tourists and visitors to leave the memorial, which allowed them to get into position for a group photo.

A cement bridge connected the dock to land and held the memorial in place. Bikers gathered on the bridge for a photo, recording memories of the experience.

Once they were finished, the motorcyclists rode off into the disappearing evening sunlight, eager for the next safety ride.

"The ride was a great way for everyone in MAG-24 to build camaraderie while learning the correct and safe ways to travel on a motorcycle," Linden said.



Cpl. James A. Sauter | Hawaii Marine

Lance Cpl. Brandon Sleeman, a scout sniper with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment and native of Friendship, Wis., relays radio communications to scout sniper teams atop a building during a scout sniper leadership course at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, Hawaii, Tuesday. The snipers conducted their final evaluation by surveying the military operations on urban terrain facility from concealed positions and sent information back to a command center to be organized into maps and models.

Scout snipers engage, learn art of leadership

Cpl. James A. Sauter
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

The bright Hawaiian sun pierced through a drab, grey sky following a period of light rain showers that left the jungle covered in a thin coat of morning dew. The sun shone brightest at its highest peak, and the humid air became sticky and uncomfortable to the scout sniper's skin, already covered in sweat and dirt from time spent concealed in the foliage of Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, Hawaii, Monday.

Scout snipers from 3rd Marine Regiment attending the School of Infantry West — Detachment Hawaii's scout sniper leadership course began their culminating event.

Far off in the brush, the sniper peered through his scope at a town similar to those he saw in Afghanistan. He observed the town's smallest details, such as the

See SNIPER, A-8

Volunteers needed to help MCB Hawaii plant life, animals

Kristen Wong
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Many volunteers spent last Saturday morning aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii dispatching weeds in what could be considered yard work of epic proportions.

Volunteers from the base and local communities assisted the Environmental Compliance and Protection Department in pulling weeds in the Shearwater Colony area of the Nuupia Ponds Wildlife Management Area, Saturday.

Every second Saturday of every even-numbered month, base environmental seeks volunteers to be "weed warriors" and help clear away invasive plants. If left untended, plants such as mangrove and seagrape can grow out of control and prevent the growth of

See VOLUNTEERS, A-8



Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

Lance Cpl. Mohammad Hossain, avionics technician, Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 367, helps clear weeds from the Shearwater Colony area of the Nuupia Ponds Wildlife Management Area, Saturday. The Environmental Compliance and Protection Department seeks volunteers throughout the year to help clear invasive plants in select areas on base to support the habitat of native Hawaiian birds and plants.



Kickin' it at Semper Fit
New kickboxing class offered at the Semper Fit Center gymnasium, **B-1**



Big shrimp in'
Find succulent shrimp dishes at Giovanni's Shrimp Truck on Oahu's North Shore, **C-1**

Saturday
High 78°
Low 68°

Sunday
High 76°
Low 69°

NEWS BRIEFS

Base tax center open for tax season

The base tax center is currently open to all Marine Corps Base Hawaii service members, retirees and reservists. Hours of operation are from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please bring all W-2s (including spouse's), bank account and routing numbers, a copy of last year's tax return, all other tax forms (1099s, etc.) and Social Security cards for all family members. The tax center is located at building 455 on the first deck. Building 455 is across the street from Forest City and adjacent to the Youth Activities Center. For details, call 257-1187.

Operation Ooh-Rah Kids

Operation Ooh-Rah Kids is scheduled for March 22 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Open to children of Marine Corps Base Hawaii personnel, Operation Ooh-Rah Kids is a fun and interactive mock deployment exercise for children ages 7 to 13. The event provides an opportunity to learn coping skills to thrive during deployment. Activities will be held at various locations on base, and lunch and snacks will be provided. This event is limited to 150 children.

The success of this event relies on the support of volunteers. The program needs active duty volunteers from corpsmen to "drill instructors" to assist throughout the day. For more information, please call Claudia LaMantia at 275-2650/2410, or email claudia.lamantia@usmc.mil.

Navy League Individual Augmentee Luncheon

On Feb. 28, the Navy League will host its annual Individual Augmentee Award Luncheon at Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu to recognize Marines who deployed as individual augmentees in 2012. Marines of all ranks are eligible to be recognized. Contact Johanna Marizan-Ho at johanna.marizanho@usmc.mil or 257-8876 for information.

Amendment to base order for water activities

As of December 2012, base order P1710.1 was revised. On page 1-7 of the base order, paragraph 6b(2) (b), the words "swim at own risk" were replaced with "enter the water at your own risk, surf and currents are moderate." On page 1-7, in paragraph 6b(2)(c), the words "YELLOW: Water activities open, enter the water at your own risk, fins are required when swimming, due to high surf or strong currents," have been added.

PMO to ticket vehicles parked on grass

Beginning March 1, the Provost Marshal's Office will be issuing tickets for vehicles parked on grassy areas on Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

Quick assist loans available from Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

Beginning today, active duty sailors and Marines can apply for a quick assist loan for up to \$500 at all 51 Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society full service offices located on Navy and Marine Corps installations worldwide. Most QALs can be processed on a walk-in basis in about 15 minutes. Active duty Marines and sailors must apply in person.

QALs are short-term, interest-free loans available to service members facing a family emergency or other urgent financial situation. QALs are available to active duty sailors and Marines who have no outstanding loans with NMCRS, and need help with basic living expenses or family emergencies. For more information, visit <http://www.nmcrcs.org/QAL> or contact the nearest NMCRS office.

Important phone numbers

On-Base Emergencies	911
Child Protective Service	832-5300
Fraud, Waste, Abuse & EEO	257-8852
Base Information	449-7110
MCB Hawaii Chaplain	257-3552
DEERS	257-2077

Hawaii Marine

www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil

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Easy ways to earn college credit outside the classroom

Cpl. James A. Sauter

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

One of the major concerns on the minds of service members leaving the military is going back to school. For those who enlisted after high school, returning to school can be a daunting task and a new start. Fortunately, service members have the opportunity to earn their degree by slowly accumulating credits during their active service.

The Marine Corps Base Hawaii education center offers service members the chance to earn credits through military training, College Level Examination Program exams and Dantes Subject Standardized Tests. These nontraditional ways of earning credits allow service members to work toward a degree without spending extra time in the classroom.

A good start for service members to check which credits they have received from the military is to look at their joint service transcript at the education center.

"Service members already earn college credit through their military training," said Craig Lockwood, the lead education specialist at the education center.

"The military replaced the SMART transcript with the joint service transcript, but the only difference is the name. All credits earned are recorded on the transcript."

Service members can still access their transcript at the education center to learn the number of credits they have earned from their training, but the most common nontraditional methods to earn credits are to take CLEP and DSST tests. Service members can simply take CLEP or DSST exams at the education center and earn credits by achieving a passing score.

The tests are not graded but the student is notified whether they passed or failed and don't count toward a grade point average. The student doesn't need to be enrolled in any school to take CLEP or DSST exams and earn credits. More than 3,000 schools accept credits earned through CLEP exams and 1,500 schools accept credits earned through DSST exams.

"Instead of sitting through a course that's several weeks long, taking CLEP and DSST exams greatly speeds up the degree process," Lockwood said.

However, there are some disadvantages to taking these tests, he said.

The most significant disadvantage is losing the classroom learning experience. Lockwood said he saw students placed into more difficult classes than they were prepared for after a school accepted their CLEP exam credits. He said this is especially common in math courses because each new class builds off the previous one.

"CLEP and DSST exams are really good for standalone classes like history and psychology," Lockwood said. "It's great for the student who already knows the material. By doing this, they don't have to sit through a class again."

The education center offers a program for service members that allows them to earn six credit hours for a semester in a four-week period. The program is geared toward service members who are leaving the military and need a quick start in the academic field. Students can attend during the working day as long as they receive command approval.

"In today's world, you can't go as far with only a high school diploma," Lockwood said. "A lot of jobs require a minimum of a bachelor's degree. The credits from the transcripts, CLEP and DSST exams do add up over time toward earning that degree."

Jordan named installation Military Spouse of Year



Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

ReBecca Jordan reads a "Max and Mia" poem to families during her son's birthday party at Waikulu Community Center, Dec. 4, 2012. Jordan is representing Marine Corps Base Hawaii in the annual Military Spouse of the Year competition hosted by Military Spouse Magazine.

Kristen Wong

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jacqueline Moreno did not know she had rheumatoid arthritis. The cryptologic technician, who works at Navy Information Operations Command Hawaii, started exhibiting symptoms which her friend, ReBecca Jordan, noticed right away.

"She's the one who started helping me and giving me information (about arthritis)," Moreno said.

Moreno said she was diagnosed early in the disease's progression. As a result, her condition was not as serious as it could have been.

"ReBecca's advocacy for the Arthritis Foundation is the reason I can still walk," Moreno said. "I could have been (handicapped) for life with this and never known what caused it."

Jordan is representing Marine Corps Base Hawaii in the annual Military Spouse of the Year competition hosted by Military Spouse Magazine.

Since 2008, the magazine has sought nominations for Military Spouse of the Year. Spouses of active duty service members from all branches are eligible for nomination. The winning spouse is afforded the opportunity to work on a cause that affects military life.

Each nominee submits a platform detailing their goal, and if they are chosen, receives assistance to make their dream a reality.

Jordan, a native of Jacksonville, N.C., is a registered nurse and seasoned military spouse of 12 years. This year was the first in which she was nominated for MSoY.

"I was shocked, surprised and honored when I read the (nomination) letters from my son and my husband," Jordan said. "Their nominations meant more to me than any award."

If she is chosen as the overall MSoY, Jordan plans to start a Hawaii Chapter of Blue Star, a

nationwide organization with more than 70 chapters. Blue Star was started by military spouses in 2008 to support military families.

Jordan is impressed by the organization's various initiatives, such as donating books to schools military children attend. She encourages military spouses aboard MCB Hawaii to join the chapter and volunteer to support each other.

Jordan, 41, was diagnosed with type one diabetes at the age of 6, and lupus while in her 20s. After suffering a herniated disc injury resulting in partial paralysis in her left leg, Jordan has had to leave work indefinitely. But she still has a full schedule, from doctor appointments to tending to her children's needs and volunteering.

"Although she is in constant pain, she always goes above and beyond, (from helping us) with homework all the way to helping us raise \$10,000 for our charities," Jordan's son, Logan, wrote in his letter.

Jordan's advocacy for the Arthritis Foundation is personal, as she and her two sons each have a form of arthritis. She has helped recruit support for the Arthritis Foundation from celebrities such as Cheesa from "The Voice" and actor Gary Sinise. She is currently contributing to a new website, <http://www.itsamilitarylife.com>, where she, her son and Moreno share stories from the perspectives of a sailor, spouse and military child. She has written poems inspired by her military family experience, and plans to publish them in the future. Among other efforts, she and her family have during the holidays dressed up as Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus and elf helpers to read to children at the Kupulau Child Development Center.

"She has always considered anyone we come in contact with as family," Jordan's husband said in his nomination letter. "Whether a neighbor, another

spouse, or just a couple young Marines with nowhere to be on Thanksgiving, she always wants people to feel welcome to our ohana."

"We are thrilled and proud of her," said Lisa DeLong, the principal of Kailua Intermediate School. "She's not only representing the military installation, but she's representing our school, too. She's an ambassador for our school, for public education and for Marine Corps Base Hawaii."

DeLong said Jordan encouraged the students, faculty and staff of KIS to become involved in organizations like the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots and the Arthritis Foundation.

"They've gotten us involved as participants and also raised our awareness," DeLong said.

She said the students at KIS have a better understanding of arthritis through efforts by Jordan, and have learned how to support students who have arthritis and accept students with differences.

DeLong described Jordan as enthusiastic. She said her enthusiasm for the various causes she advocates is "contagious."

In addition to KIS, Jordan volunteers at other places throughout the year. She is a member of the Mokapu Elementary School Parent Teacher Association. She regularly offers a hand to the staff, whether in counting Box Tops for Education or helping with bake and book sales. Jordan said it feels good to volunteer, and encourages her children to do the same.

"I want to continue being the best spouse I can, the best mother I can, the best friend, the best ReBecca I can be," Jordan said.

The branch winners of MSoY will be announced, Thursday. The overall MSoY will be awarded, May 9. For more information about the competition, visit <http://msoy.militaryspouse.com/Page/About>.

AROUND THE CORPS



3/4 finishes out first integrated training exercise

Cpl. Sarah Dietz | Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms

Marines with 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, conduct the Integrated Training Exercise Feb. 4, as part of their pre-deployment workup at Range 215.

Cpl. William Jackson

Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — Squad and team leaders with Lima Company, 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, received their mission brief the night of Feb. 3. They had submerged themselves into their training mission and prepped for the oncoming patrol during their stabilization week of the Integrated Training Exercise.

The facility was no longer Range 215 and California ceased to exist. The Marines of the “Thundering Third” found themselves in the Al Dakhli province of Azanistan. They would be leaving Combat Outpost 3 the following morning with a group of support personnel acting as Afghan National Police to conduct battalion stability and counter-insurgency operations against the enemy, known as Jaysh Al Fatwah.

At 6:30 a.m. the following day, Lima Company was staged. The squad leaders ensured each Marine in the squad was properly geared for the patrol. 1st Lt. Michael Dooley, platoon commander, Lima Co., 3rd Bn., 4th Marines, introduced the ANP to the squad leaders.

Even though specific times are set for a mission, Marines have to stay vigilant for the threats around them. Every plan needs a back-up because something will fail, explained Cpl. Kyle Jackson, squad leader, 3rd Bn., 4th Marines.

Indirect fire hit COP 3 without warning in the early afternoon, and the Marines took immediate action. Their patrol was delayed while the other companies continued their patrols through the Al Dakhli province.

At 1 p.m., the Marines began their patrol. “We’re going to set up a series of cordons around the town,” said 1st Lt. Robert Christensen, executive officer, Lima Co., 3rd Bn., 4th Marines. “From there, we’re going to locate some of the key individuals like the village elder and have a shura, where hopefully they will give us some sort of information about what’s going on in town, both good and bad.”

Shura is Arabic for consultation. Marines and village elders come together to share thoughts, experiences and ideas about how to coordinate civilian and military efforts to improve their district.

“The one thing I push to my Marines is to be comfortable talking with the (Azanis),” Jackson said. Communication helps build a relationship and

bond, which shows that they’re there to help, he added.

During the patrol, Jackson received notional shrapnel to his right leg from an improvised explosive device. Before his medical evacuation, he handed the squad over to his best team leader, Cpl. Ryan Castillo.

“Castillo!” Jackson shouted. “You’re taking over!” “I sit through every meeting,” said Castillo after assuming control of the squad. “If a squad leader goes down and I can’t take over, the squad (goes down). We have to be pretty in depth in case this happens. We still have to set up a cordon on this sector, no matter what.”

Marines, along with their Azani counterparts, conducted biometric scans and tactfully questioned and searched local nationals. Lima Company pushed through the town, fending off JAF insurgents while gathering information from local nationals.

The goal was to restore civil order within the Al Dakhli province, explained Jackson. Knowing how to speak to and interact with the Azani was the beginning of the mission.

The battalion finished ITX this week as part of their predeployment training before they deploy to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom later this year.

2nd Tank Battalion remembers fallen Marine

Cpl. Jeff Drew

2nd Marine Division

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — “Cpl. Linnabary gave his life. He gave the ultimate sacrifice doing something he believed in wholeheartedly, we should all be so lucky,” 1st Lt. Jim Nash, Linnabary’s platoon commander, said solemnly. “I have an unspeakable appreciation for that sacrifice. I miss him terribly and he’s irreplaceable, but the memories of him and the living memory that is his daughter will be his legacy, and the conduct of the Marines to follow will be in his honor.”

Marines with 2nd Tank Battalion,

2nd Marine Division, held a memorial for Cpl. Daniel L. Linnabary II, a tanker with Bravo Company, to remember his constant and unfailing dedication to family and the Corps. Linnabary, the son of Chief Warrant Officer 4 (ret.) Daniel and Aneta Linnabary was killed in action while conducting dismounted combat operations in Now Zad District, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Aug. 6, 2012. To the Marines who worked with him on a daily basis, Linnabary was a constant source of motivation.

“He truly cared how you worked, how you carried yourself, and how to better yourself,” said Wallingford, Ct., native Lance Cpl. Nicholas Matarese.

“As a friend, anything I needed or if I needed to talk to anyone or ever doubted myself, he was the one I could go to. I am more proud to say that I can call him a best friend, a mentor, and I consider myself one of the luckiest Marines to say that I was taught under him and I can pass on what he taught me.”

Those who were close to Linnabary spoke fondly of his dedication not only to his brothers-in-arms, but also to his family.

“Watching him grow as a Marine, a father and husband, it is one of the proudest feelings that I have,” said Louisville, Ky., native, Staff Sgt. Jon Kramer. “He meant a lot to me. He may not have

been blood, but he was my son. Please keep Daniel in your hearts and minds and carry on his legacy. In his famous last words, ‘Everything that is going on, get back on the tank, drive on.’”

Linnabary was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals. His additional awards include the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment ribbon and North Atlantic Treaty Organization International Security Assistance Force Medal. Linnabary is survived by his wife, Chelsea, and daughter, Rosalie May.

Exercise Cobra Gold 2013 kicks off in Thailand

Donna Miles

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The commander of U.S. Pacific Command kicked off the longest-running U.S. military exercise in the Pacific in Thailand today, calling the 13,000 multinational participants guardians of future peace and prosperity.

Navy Adm. Samuel J. Locklear III marked the opening of the 32nd iteration of Cobra Gold hosted by Thailand and the United States since 1980. Cobra Gold began as a bilateral U.S.-Thai exercise, but expanded more than a decade ago to include other regional partners to advance their common goals and security commitments in the Asia-Pacific region, officials said. Cobra Gold 2013, which runs through Feb. 21, brings together the militaries of United States, Thailand and five other Asian countries: Japan, South Korea, Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore. Twenty additional nations have sent observers, including, for the first time, Burma.

“Whether you are a participant or an observer, or whether you have been here for 32 years or this is your first year, your being here demonstrates your country’s resolve to peace and stability in this region and in the world,” Locklear said at the opening ceremonies. “It is critical to building our multinational coordination, our interoperability with all of our partners in the region and to allow us to collectively respond



Lance Cpl. Jose Lujano | III Marine Expeditionary Force

Niti Soonkoontod, (left center), a 12-year-old student of the Ban Kuad Nam Man School, and Lance Cpl. Cuang V. Cao high-five during their lunch break at Chat Trakarn District in Phitsanulok, Thailand. Royal Thai soldiers with 302nd Engineer Battalion, Royal Thai Army, and Marines with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, are working together during Exercise Cobra Gold 2013.

to crises and protect the peace and prosperity of all our people.”

This year’s exercise will be demanding, as it prepares participants “for a broad spectrum of challenges we are going to face together,” Locklear said. The ambitious training schedule includes a staff exercise, senior leader engagements and “humanitarian and civic projects we will do together, field training we will do together, (and) live-fire events we will do together,” he said.

Highlights include an amphibious assault demonstration that includes attack jets, helicopters, landing craft and small boats, small-boat and helicopter raids, a multilateral non-combatant evacuation operation, a combined arms live-fire exercise, and jungle warfare and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear training.

All are designed, Locklear said, to “replicate the dynamic environment we find ourselves in today and (expect) in the future.” He challenged the participants to take advantage of the training opportunities at Cobra Gold to build the bonds and capabilities that ensure they will be prepared.

“Working together, we will meet the challenges and forge a brighter future for the region and the world,” he said.

Marines with III Marine Expeditionary Force’s Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Marine Aircraft Group 36, arrived in Thailand last week to partner with Royal Thai Marines to build a schoolhouse at Ban Nam Chiao Elementary School in Lam Ngob District. Another civic project planned during the exercise is construction of a one-story multipurpose building for the Baan Hua Wang Krang School in Thailand’s Muang District.



Pfc. Glenn Morgan, an automotive mechanic with Combat Logistics Battalion 3, and native of Milwaukee, Wis., picks up a round to place in his rifle for the single fire portion during the Pacific Division Matches at Puuloa Range Training Facility in Ewa Beach, Hawaii, Monday.



Pfc. Glenn Morgan, an automotive mechanic with Combat Logistics Battalion 3, lowers his rifle as he breathes calmly and smoothly to keep his shot accurate during the Pacific Division Matches at Puuloa Range Training Facility, Monday.



Lance Cpl. Kaitlyn Larue, a postal clerk for Headquarters Battalion and a native of Hackett, Ark., loads a single round into the chamber of her rifle during the Pacific Division Matches at Puuloa Range Training Facility, Monday.



Pfc. Glenn Morgan, an automotive mechanic with Combat Logistics Battalion 3, aims down range and focuses on hitting black on the target during the Pacific Division Matches at Puuloa Range Training Facility, Monday.

FIRING FREQUENCY

Service members line up on the firing line during the Pacific Division Matches at Puuloa Range Training Facility, Monday. Marines had to fire through their individual base and regional competitions before competing at the division level. Once placed in the top of a division, Marine shooters are chosen to compete in the Marine Corps Shooting Championship.

Hawaii Marines compete in Pacific Division Matches

Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

EWA BEACH, Hawaii — A Marine's best friend is his or her rifle. Marines master it as they master their lives. These are words that Marines all through history have lived by. To this day, Marines strive to master their rifles because it could save their lives.

Service members shot rifles and pistols during the second day of qualification in the Pacific Division Matches at the Puuloa Range Training Facility in Ewa Beach, Hawaii, Monday.

Classes started Feb. 4, teaching shooting principles that encompass necessary techniques competitors use throughout the competition. Subjects covered the gear competitors are allowed to use, competition programs,

wind calling and sling techniques. Allotted time was provided to "snap in," or practice, shooting positions like the prone, sitting, kneeling and standing.

Shooters started to fire on the range the next day. They received advice from combat marksmanship trainers, who are trained in helping shooters overcome challenges.

The qualifying competition rounds started Feb. 8 and continued through Feb. 11, the last day of the shooting competition.

There were 140 shooters in the competition. Service members from bases on Hawaii were allowed to compete.

"The Pacific Division Matches have some of the best competitive shooters in the Marine Corps," said Gunnery Sgt. Heath Fernald, the staff noncommissioned officer of the Marine Corps Rifle Team from Erie, Pa. "If someone wants to be the best, they have to compete against the

best. This competition gives any service member a chance to be a better marksman and competitively shoot against other Marines and service members."

Marines have to tread through their individual base and region competitions before competing at the divisional level. The Eastern, Western and Pacific divisions host shooting competitions. The top qualifiers from each division are granted an opportunity to attend the Marine Corps Shooting Championship on Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.

"I learned more about shooting during this competition than while in boot camp," said Pfc. Glenn Morgan, an automotive mechanic with Combat Logistics Battalion 3 and a native of Milwaukee, Wis. "Coaches here are willing to get in-depth on how to shoot more precisely."

Marines interested in competing with the rifle or

pistol team can get involved with intramural or division matches if their command grants permission. Marines have to submit an application to the Weapons Training Battalion on MCB Hawaii for Pacific matches.

Marines who place high enough in the shooting competition and make it to the Marine Corps Shooting Team can expect to serve a two- to three-year tour with the team.

"Marines need to apply themselves during the training portion of the competition," said Gunnery Sgt. Christopher Stephens, rifle team head coach, Marine Corps shooting team in Okinawa, Japan. "If Marines apply themselves, they will learn valuable skills for themselves and take what they learned back to other Marines, enhancing the overall combat readiness of the Marine Corps."



Photos by Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke | Hawaii Marine



Service members line up on the firing line, point their weapons downrange and fire with accuracy and precision during the Pacific Division Matches at Puuloa Range Training Facility, Monday.

New Sergeants Course distance education program available

Press Release
Marine Corps College of Distance Education and Training


The Marine Corps College of Distance Education and Training, working closely with the Marine Corps University Enlisted Professional Military Education Branch, has developed an improved Sergeants Course Distance Education Program to meet the expectations of the operating forces.

The new Sergeants Course DEP on MarineNet is a curriculum of nine sub-courses, including administration, communication, warfighting, squad operations, tactical planning, tactical tools, training, leadership one, and leadership two. The curriculum is designed to provide Marine sergeants with additional knowledge and skills to assume leadership roles of greater responsibility. This computer-based, interactive multimedia instruction leverages learning technologies and problem-based situations that a Marine sergeant will encounter, to emphasize leadership development and warfighting skills needed as a small-unit leader.

Upon completion of the 60-hour Sergeants Course DEP, Marines will have a greater knowledge of their role as ethical leaders, recognize how personal actions stimulate change in the behavior and attitude of subordinates, and possess additional tools to guide their Marines’ personal and professional development. They will be better prepared to make sound decisions that promote and support organizational values and leadership philosophies, and they will possess an increased understanding of maneuver warfare and its application at the squad level. The Sergeants Course DEP provides additional skills and increased confidence required to lead Marines in combat and garrison.


The Sergeants Course DEP (EPME5000AA) replaces the Sergeants Course MCI (MCI 8010) as the PME requirement for sergeants and the prerequisite to attend the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy resident Sergeants Course. EPME5000AA is active on MarineNet and is open for enrollment by all Sergeants and above. The MARADMIN will be published in the next couple of weeks.

For more information about this course, visit http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/cdet/sitepages/activation_announcements.aspx.



MarineNet

ACTIVATION ANNOUNCEMENT




Sergeants Course Distance Education Program

7 Feb 2013


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COURSE NAME:
Sergeants Course DEP

Enrollment is open to all Marine Sergeants and above.



COURSE CODE:
EPME5000AA



www.marinenet.usmc.mil

ADMIN	COMM	WARFIGHTING	SQUAD OPERATIONS	TACTICAL PLANNING	TACTICAL TOOLS	TRAINING	LEADERSHIP I	LEADERSHIP II
MILITARY JUSTICE SYSTEM	CORRESPONDENCE	WARFIGHTING (MCDP-1)	SQUAD OFFENSIVE FUNDAMENTALS	TACTICAL FUNDAMENTALS	WEAPONS EMPLOYMENT	INTRO TO UNIT READINESS PLANNING	USMC ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	ADVISE SUBORDINATES ON CAREER PROGRESSION
PRO & CON MARKS	ORAL PRESENTATION	JOINT OPERATIONS	SQUAD DEFENSIVE FUNDAMENTALS	TROOP LEADING STEPS	LAND NAVIGATION	MANAGE TRAINING	HISTORY OF THE MARINE NCO	LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES
PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEM	INTERACT WITH THE MEDIA	COUNTER-INSURGENCY	PATROLLING	COMBAT ORDERS	CASUALTY EVACUATION	COMBAT CONDITIONING	FOUNDATIONS OF USMC LEADERSHIP	REQUEST MAST
9 COURSES 29 LESSONS 60 HOURS 20 RESERVE RETIREMENT CREDITS						GUIDED DISCUSSION	DRILL AND CEREMONY	

The goal of the Sergeants Course DEP is to better prepare Marine Sergeants to assume leadership roles of greater responsibility. The Sergeants Course DEP on MarineNet will replace the Sergeants Course MCI.

Pyramid Rock Young Marines hold open house on MCB Hawaii

Lance Cpl. Jacob D. Barber
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

In 1959, a group of active duty Marines started a program in Waterbury, Conn., with the focus of making a positive impact on young boys and girls while promoting responsibility and a healthy, drug-free lifestyle.

The program, Young Marines of the Marine Corps League, continued to grow from the first unit in Connecticut to nearly 300 units worldwide. Though thousands of children have participated in the program since its start, it didn’t reach Hawaii until October 2012. The program recently expanded to Oahu under the direction of John DiGiovanni, a Marine major stationed on Oahu, and his wife Linda, who were proud of what the program did for their children in past years.

Pyramid Rock Young Marines held an open house at the Mololani Community Center here, Saturday, from 1 to 4 p.m. The meeting was made in hopes of finding future Young Marines and volunteers for the program.

“We wanted to get involved in the program because of the enjoyment my own kids got out of it,” Linda DiGiovanni said. “It’s a great program that helps the children grow within themselves by learning traits like leadership, teamwork and discipline — all of which you learn in the Marine

Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

Young Marines Cpl. Joseph DiGiovanni shows an example of Young Marines uniforms to Master Sgt. Paul Harvey, Marine assignments staff noncommissioned officer in charge at U.S. Pacific Command, and his son, during an open house at Mololani Community Center, Oct. 12, 2012.

Corps. We want their focus to be on school or their job, not drugs and trouble.”

When joining a local Young Marines unit, boy and girl participants from ages 8 to 18 must complete a 26-hour orientation known as “boot camp.” During the orientation, which is spread out over several weekly meetings, the

children receive classes in subjects such as history, customs and courtesies, close-order drill, physical fitness and military rank structure. After “boot camp,” the youth are able to wear the Young Marines’ uniform, and earn higher ranks, awards and ribbons through specific achievement in areas such as swimming, first aid and drug

resistance education.

“I wanted to join this program before I even knew what it was,” said Storm DiGiovanni, 16, who joined the unit more than six years ago and is now the Pyramid Rock Young Marines sergeant major. “Through the years, I have learned a lot of leadership skills and how to stand up for myself. I definitely encourage more people to join, especially since this is the only unit on Hawaii.”

Young Marines of the Marine Corps League also offers children the opportunity to become involved in the Oahu community by volunteering in soup kitchens, marathon runs, and even at yard sales in coordination with wounded warriors. Meetings are held weekly on Saturdays for the Pyramid Rock Young Marines.

Young Marines receive exceptional summer program opportunities, which are paid for by YMMCL. These include a two-week historical site tour that starts in Boston and ends at the Marine Corps Museum in Quantico, Va., a space aviation program, and a western trip where children can get their hands dirty on a ranch for a week.

“We try to place as many opportunities on the table as we can,” Linda DiGiovanni said. “We’re not here to create future Marines ... however, we want our Young Marines to live a happy, eventful life.”

‘Eagle Eyes’ land on Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s Web page

Lance Cpl. Suzanna Lapi

Combat Correspondent

The Eagle Eyes anti-terrorism and awareness initiative, created approximately two years ago by the Marine Corps, has locked its gaze on Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

Mike Allen, an anti-terrorism specialist with the base emergency operations center, said the Marine Corps is focused on getting the word out about terrorism alertness.

“We are pushing this web-based system on base so people know how to report suspicious activity and do their part to help make the base secure,” Allen said.

The Eagle Eyes link on Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s website makes it simple for anyone within or around the base community to report criminal activity.

“A report can be submitted through the web-site and will be reviewed by our department and law enforcement, specifically the Provost Marshal’s Office,” Allen said. “It’s a good tool in our social media age since community members can take a picture or even a video of the activity and upload it, where it will be analyzed by trained personnel.”

Allen said the process is as simple as clicking on the link, filling out contact information, creating a report, uploading any media and clicking submit. Concerned citizens can also call 257-2123 to make a report.

“Suspicious activity is anything out of the ordinary,” Allen said. “If you see someone at

the main gate taking pictures at odd hours of the day, or someone observing a construction site, and it seems strange, you can either approach the guard, call or visit the website to report it.”

People submitting reports in good faith can expect to be contacted by authorities to verify or clarify information. For this reason, a person can’t report anonymously.

“Good faith reporting ensures the proper information is collected so we can act accordingly,” Allen said. “It doesn’t have to be of a terroristic nature either. If you observe a criminal act like someone breaking into a car, report it.”

Eagles Eyes works in conjunction with TrapWire, which is a web-based program used by emergency operations center personnel to upload information.

“The two programs complement each other,” Allen said. “If someone reports information on one program, we can see if there is a pattern and match information.”

The Eagles Eyes initiative, much like a neighborhood watch program, enlists the help of the community to prevent crime by simply being observant and reporting.

“For people to become vigilant in averting terrorism, it’s as simple as being aware of your surroundings,” Allen said. “Eagle Eyes is meant to be a tool to protect yourself and one another. The more eyes we have watching out for each other gives us a better chance in deterring any activity, not just terrorism.”

The graphic features the Marine Corps logo and the text 'Eagle Eyes' in large orange letters, followed by 'WATCH. REPORT. PROTECT.' in white. Below this, it says 'A Simple Observation A Single Report' in orange, and 'You could help PREVENT a terrorist or criminal attack' in white. A small inset image shows a person holding a smartphone next to a car. At the bottom, a red banner displays 'www.USMCEagleEyes.org' in white. Below the banner, the text 'Stay Alert Stay Alive' is written in large white letters, with a small image of a computer monitor showing the Eagle Eyes website interface.

Going for the gold: MCB Hawaii teen awarded for community work

Christine Cabalo

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Any act of volunteering is worth the time for Michael-Logan Jordan, who was named as one of two Hawaii honorees for the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards earlier this month.

Jordan, an eighth grade student and Marine Corps Base Hawaii resident, is involved in community outreach throughout the year. His causes include working with Kailua Intermediate School’s Peer Education Program, annually donating his birthday presents to the Toys for Tots Foundation and supporting the National Arthritis Foundation. He’s able to keep up the packed schedule while managing painful symptoms from polyarticular and systemic juvenile rheumatoid arthritis.

“Giving back is like medicine to me,” Jordan said. “I do it, and I feel better. You don’t need to donate all your birthday gifts in order to give back, but you can do small things every day to be nice.”

Jordan’s illness limits his physical activities, due to his immune system attacking healthy cells in his body. The teen occasionally needs a cane to walk and battles pain from swollen joints, skin rashes, fevers and inflammation to his internal organs. However, he said he feels unlimited in the help he can provide to the community.

He’s inspired many to volunteer action, including Master Sgt. Rodney Harris, communications chief, 1st Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment. Harris, who worked with Jordan’s father, was initially surprised to hear how he has donated all of his birthday presents for the last eight years. Since meeting Jordan, Harris has regularly donated toys during the teen’s birthday.

“I think if this child wants to do this on his birthday, when most people are thinking of themselves that day, it’s great,” Harris said.

Angie Rice, a Marine Corps Base Hawaii resident, has also assisted the middle-school student and his family in several volunteer projects. In May 2012, Jordan’s classmates helped him and another student with arthritis raise funds for the foundation.

“We saw all these children, from all different backgrounds, come together,” Rice said. “You could see Logan inspire them, and it makes you want to volunteer to do as much as you can for any cause. He’s a true motivator.”

Jordan’s well of motivation runs deep, as both Rice and Harris said they’ve seen the rollercoaster of pain he endures while still helping others. Jordan said although many in his community are now aware of



Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

Michael-Logan Jordan, an eighth grade student and Marine Corps Base Hawaii resident, takes part in the Hawaii Arthritis Walk in Honolulu, May 20, 2012, to raise funds and awareness of the disease. Jordan was recently selected as one of two Hawaii honorees for this year’s Prudential Spirit of Community Awards.

his disease, he doesn’t want it to change how they treat him.

The subject comes up occasionally when he volunteers as a peer mediator in his school’s Peer Education Program, which trains Jordan and other students to peacefully end student conflicts.

“I tell them to think of me as a regular person,” he said. “We bond, and a lot of people open up to me and trust me.”

Jordan’s leadership in the program motivates adults and other children his age to help out, said Toni Whittington, a counselor with Kailua Intermediate School. She said Jordan’s daily actions remind her of how he has a heart for serving others.

“His main approach during mediation is to really understand others,” she said. “He’s mature beyond his years and he has a broad understanding of the issues

other students bring up. He has a gift for empathy, with a great caring heart.”

Many adults who’ve met Jordan, including Harris, said the teen’s main focus is always looking out for others.

“The most refreshing thing is he is one of our millennial children who is not selfish,” Harris said. “He’s genuinely motivated, doing things to help others and takes care of the community.”

With his recent state-level win, Jordan has the chance to be one of 10 national gold medallion youth honorees recognized for their outstanding community service. Not many other nominees can say the Mayor of Honolulu proclaimed a “Michael-Logan Jordan Day” in 2012.

Jordan may have had his day last year, but this recent win could also make 2013 his year.



Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke | Hawaii Marine

Marines and sailors with Marine Aircraft Group 24 ride their motorcycles away from the USS Missouri Battleship Memorial during the first ever MAG-24 safety and awareness ride, Feb. 8. The safety and awareness ride began at Marine Corps Base Hawaii, followed the Interstate H-3 to H-1 Highways and ended at the famed memorial. The ride was created to teach Marines and sailors how to ride motorcycles correctly and safely in large groups.

VOLUNTEER, from A-1

native Hawaiian plants.

On Saturday, a team consisting of a Marine, members of the Sierra Club and students from the University of Hawaii, cleared out seagrape. This was a rare opportunity for volunteers since the Shearwater area, though beautiful, is in a restricted area. Wedge-tailed Shearwater birds nest in burrows and mate on base. During the winter, the birds migrate away from Mokapu Peninsula, and the weed warriors use the opportunity to clear the habitat.

Todd Russell, biological science technician with base environmental, said the base saves money and helps the environment by having at least 10 volunteers clear weeds for three hours.

“They get to do something that’s meaningful by spending the day helping out the base, as well as the planet,” Russell said.

Though the weed warriors

generally work three to four times a year to clear invasive plants, mangrove needs to be managed as many as six times a year. It can even take an entire week to work on cutting down mangrove.

Russell said the Nuupia Ponds need the most help of any other place on base.

“It’s a constant battle,” he said.

Mangrove makes it harder for native Hawaiian plants to grow and also creates a difficult living environment for the native Hawaiian black-necked stilt, a bird common to the base. He said a mature mangrove plant can grow as high as 50 feet tall, and the plants are always dropping seeds.

“I just love to volunteer on the work projects,” said Deborah Blair, a member of the Sierra Club and the club’s lead volunteer for the weed warriors.

The Sierra Club has visited the base for weed warriors projects for more than 10 years.

Though the invasive plants are constantly making a comeback, Blair said there is a noticeable difference in the landscape from weed warrior efforts.

University of Hawaii students learned of the weed warrior projects through the Sierra Club, and joined in the work last weekend.

Chaewon Im, a UH student and the vice president of the honor student organization, said her first experience working as a weed warrior was fun, and different than she thought it would be. She said it is beneficial to volunteer to “keep native plants healthy and thriving.”

Lance Cpl. Mohammad Hossain, an avionics technician with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 367, also volunteered. Hossain, a native of Atlanta, was recently stationed at MCB Hawaii and heard about weed warriors during the base’s new arrivals orientation. Hossain said he was able to meet new people through weed warrior

SNIPER, from A-1

number of residents and building types, and took notes on what he saw to be analyzed later.

The snipers suspiciously watched two local nationals scanning the tree line, apparently looking for something or, possibly, his position. Trusting in his training to remain concealed or risk being captured by the enemy, the sniper continued spying on the town and gathered intelligence critical to a plan of attack.

“If the basic course is where Marines go to become scout snipers, then the leadership course builds on those skills to teach them how to lead scout snipers in combat,” said Gunnery Sgt. Timothy Tardif, the course’s staff noncommissioned officer in charge and native of Denver. “Ninety percent of our job is reconnaissance and there’s a lot of hard work that goes into that.”

In addition to improving fundamental sniper skills such as surveillance and stalking, the Marines learned how to employ their teams on the battlefield, draft orders and create real-time maps of areas they surveyed.

“The Marines have to paint a picture of what they’re observing to the unit commander so he can make a decision based on the gathered intelligence,” Tardif said. “Small details like the number of windows, doors, population and demographics are all taken into account in the final course of action.”

An instructor described the course using an analogy. He said Marines learned the science of war, the fundamental skills of being a sniper, during the basic course. During the leadership course, they learned the art of war — taking the fundamentals and applying them to an evolving situation that requires the Marines to know their craft, and make decisions affecting their environment and fellow comrades.

In the course’s final week, three teams of five Marines were evaluated on their ability to survey a military operations on urban terrain facility from a concealed position.

The objective was to collect information regarding population and architecture and send it to a command center by radio. As they received the intelligence, other Marines used the information to put together a real-time map and model of the facility.

“I grew up in the woods of Florida and when I came here, I found out that a lot of what they’re teaching came second nature to me,” said Cpl. Ian Cabanillas, a scout sniper with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment and native of Jacksonville, Fla. “I already had experience hunting, camping and hiking, but if you know your gear and skills, you’re prepared to accomplish the mission.”

The final day of evaluation is today. Tardif hoped the Marines learned how to be better leaders and perform more cohesively in teams, alone and in the field.

For Lance Cpl. Brandon Sleeman, a scout sniper with 3rd Bn., 3rd Marines and native of Friendship, Wis., the most memorable experience was learning from the instructors’ experience and wisdom.

“When I first came here, I was oblivious to a lot of the mission planning and order writing,” Sleeman said. “But there was so much experience to learn from the instructors. I’m much better off now and I can’t wait to pass my experience on to other Marines.”

Sports & Health

New Semper Fit class challenges students to kickbox



Photos by Cpl. James A. Sauter | Hawaii Marine

Lale Turcan, a student attending the new kickboxing class at the Semper Fit Center, performs a left jab during a session, Saturday. The new class is available Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Cpl. James A. Sauter
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

The first thing more than 20 kickboxing students were asked when they entered the studio gym at the Semper Fit Center, Saturday, was, “What still hurts — hamstrings, glutes, triceps?” Slavica Hansbrough, their instructor, warned the students to spread out to ensure they had enough moving space so they didn’t punch or kick one another.

Hansbrough turned up a loud workout music mix of 1980s workout jams, contemporary pop and heavy metal, and began the class with a challenging warm-up of jabs and punches. The class had an hour of kickboxing in front of them.

“I heard about this class from Slavica when I attended her Zumba class,” said Lance Cpl. Isaac Munoz, a calibration technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24. “She told me it was starting the first Saturday of February and this is my second week doing it. The best thing about it is the fast pace, which really gets me pumped up.”

The new class is available Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Hansbrough started the workout by demonstrating different moves the students were to perform, such as jabs, hooks, kicks and combinations of all three. She called out a move and the class followed while viewing their techniques in the mirror. The up-beat music coupled with the kickboxing techniques made the session. With more than 20 people performing the moves simultaneously, the class seemed more like a fighting dance than a workout.

“You should start feeling it right in here,” Hansbrough



Students of the new kickboxing class at the Semper Fit Center follow Slavica Hansbrough (third from left), the class’s instructor, in a high-knee exercise, Saturday. Hansbrough taught more than 20 students how to jab, cross hook, kick and make combinations of all three. The new class is available Saturday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

“The best thing about it is the fast pace, which really gets me pumped up.”

– Lance Cpl. Isaac Munoz

shouted, pointing to her abs. “You guys are doing great, keep it up.”

When the class was halfway done, Hansbrough broke up the kickboxing routine.

The students stretched in preparation for inchworm calisthenics and basketball rushing exercises.

Starting at one side of the gym, the students began in a

push-up position and stepped toward their hands, and then moved their hands back and performed a push-up. For the rushing exercise, the students formed a circle around the gym and grouped in pairs. While rushing from one side to the other, one person had to try to run past their partner, while the latter couldn’t let the person by.

“This is my first time ever doing kickboxing and I’m having a lot of fun,” said Lale Turcan, a friend Hansbrough invited to the class. “It’s always good to do something different and I don’t have a whole lot of

experience in martial arts. But this was a great workout.”

After all attendees completed the rushing exercise, Hansbrough had them rest and cool down with more stretching. Everyone clapped and cheered when the exhausting yet exhilarating workout came to an end.

“My favorite part of this class is the feeling of being a part of a team,” Munoz said. “It’s hardcore, intense and it’s not really an entry level class. You have to commit a lot to this to get the full benefits of this class.”

VP-9 shoots to first place after basketball victory

Lance Cpl. Jacob D. Barber
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 and Patrol Squadron 9 faced off in an intramural basketball league showdown at the Semper Fit Center gym, Tuesday. Both teams are known for their accurate shooting on offense. The VP-9 team, however, proved superior in that category, scoring more than 10 three-point shots and winning the game, 56-43.

Soon after the opening tip-off, VP-9 showed their dominance in outside scoring, making their first four shots from the three-point line. MALS-24 played hard defensively but could not connect on offense, causing several turnovers and missing more than half of their shots.

“It sucks to lose, especially when you know your team can play better than what they did,” said Jonas Guevara, MALS-24 forward. “We just weren’t connecting this game. When you get off to a bad start, it’s a challenge to get back on track, especially when your opponent is cutting you no slack.”

Rebounding was crucial in the game as both teams battled under the basket. Though MALS-24 was leading in the re-



Lance Cpl. Jacob D. Barber | Hawaii Marine

Bryan Bruce, a forward for the Patrol Squadron 9 intramural basketball team, shoots the basketball in the midst of many defenders during a basketball game against Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, at Semper Fit Center gym, Tuesday.

bound category for the majority of the first half, they could not take the lead before halftime.

“Our team played well,” said Michael Rooks, VP-9 forward. “We showed a lot of strength. We were able to not

only get a lot of the rebounds, but we were able to convert those rebounds to points. Because of that, we were able to take a strong lead in the beginning of the game and continue that momentum on.”

By halftime, VP-9 held a commanding lead, 39-21.

The second half started with a three point shot from VP-9, but MALS-24 quickly followed with two of their own. The gap in the score began to close due to the strong offensive play by MALS-24. Their opponents struggled to connect on perimeter shots and began missing easy scoring opportunities, such as layups and short-range shots.

“We weren’t connecting,” Rooks said. “We weren’t setting up our players with open shots and missed a few shots we should have definitely made. They started to catch up so we had to rethink our strategy and play how we did in the first half.”

Though MALS-24 continued to make basket after basket, they could not contain VP-9 and struggled to gain possession of the ball. A few vital shots from VP-9 guards gave the team

See VP-9, B-3



VS is a recurring column tackling debatable issues in the sports and entertainment world. Hawaii Marine readers can submit a subject for future columns by emailing their ideas to HawaiiMarineEditor@gmail.com.

If there’s a topic you would like to discuss/defend or if you think we missed the mark, let us know and you could see your “opinion,” regardless of how wrong it is, featured below. Suit up ladies ... it’s game time.

Is NASCAR really a sport?

Cpl. Reece Lodder VS. Lance Cpl. Suzanna Lapi

Lodder: NASCAR, the glorified hick get-together that consistently captivates droves of Confederate flag-waving, gaudy belt buckle-wearing Americans, is not a sport. I, like most other sane Americans, classify NASCAR like I see it, as a hobby or, perhaps, a “series of unfortunate events.” While hobbies are an excellent thing to have, please don’t confuse this particular hobby with something it’s not. This good ol’ hobby focuses on driving flimsy-looking, multi-colored cars around in circles for hours. Sounds fun! But it’s still not a sport. It is an excuse for a sport introduced by people who’d rather shift focus from true American sports like football, baseball and basketball.

Lapi: People misinterpret what the sport of NASCAR is because of the fans. Unfortunately, those beer-bellied rednecks really give it a bad rep. Let’s focus on the people inside the cars that make NASCAR a sport. Name any fat NASCAR driver-you can’t. Racers have to be fit to withstand driving at speeds of roughly 200 miles per hour for almost 500 miles. Sure, it’s ‘around in circles,’ but imagine holding onto a steering wheel for that amount of time. You couldn’t be out of shape and survive that. The breath control they have to maintain to be able to perform and not crash into a wall is a feat within itself. What

“hobbies” do you partake in that require that much of you? If it isn’t considered “sporting,” I don’t know what is.

Lodder: Indeed, “beer-bellied rednecks,” you’ve admitted are NASCAR’s main audience do really give it a bad reputation. For this reason, I find it interesting you’re still comfortable being associated with NASCAR after acknowledging the hobby appeals and caters to this demographic. I didn’t really picture you as the hog-tyin’ type, but I guess I’ve been proved wrong. Participating in a NASCAR event undoubtedly requires physical fitness, just as there are many other hobbies people choose to participate in that require them to be in excellent shape. Those who dabble in synchronized swimming and figure skating must maintain a certain level of fitness, but that doesn’t make their performance a sport. I’m disappointed by your attempt to rob America of true sports by thrusting this hillbilly hobby, a ridiculous capital venture, into the limelight. If the day ever comes that I miss my chance to watch an actual sports game on TV because it’s been replaced by a NASCAR event, I’m blaming you.

Lapi: Well, I stand corrected. Turns out the fans of NASCAR are a physical bunch since we apparently tie up hogs for fun.



LODDER

Surely that requires physical fitness! On the subject of fitness, you seem to claim that the sports of swimming and figure skating, which may I add are Olympic sports, are mere hobbies. Clearly you can’t differentiate between a sport and a hobby, so I feel that your claim of NASCAR not being a sport should be completely discredited. As far as capital ventures go, how much more money does football and baseball rake in over NASCAR? You might want to look that one up. It’s quite enlightening, and it seems to me you could use some light bulbs upstairs. Since NASCAR isn’t as much of a capital venture, it would never replace another sport. No need to point fingers in my direction.

Lodder: I’d fully expect an admitted country bumpkin who enjoys wrasslin’ to misread my simply written previous point. In it, I discredited synchronized swimming as a sport, not regular swimming. Swimming is a sport as much as Michael Phelps is an American sports icon. Swimming’s weak little brother, synchronized swimming, is a bizarre hobby. But let me get you back on track. Actual sports like football and baseball indisputably bring in more money than NASCAR, but that wasn’t my point. As NASCAR isn’t a sport, it’ll never replace a sport, let alone surpass an actual sport



LAPI

in earnings. My point was, and remains, that your unpatriotic line of thinking charts a dangerous course. By drawing sports fans’ attention away from true athletic competitions to hobbies masquerading as sports, you’re disturbing the sanctity of America’s revered sports history.

Lapi: Sport, as defined by the New Oxford American Dictionary, is partially defined as a pastime. Does NASCAR not fall into this category? Let’s further define sport, or in your words “athletic competition.” True athletic competition requires some sort of physical strain, elevated thought processes for strategic purposes and good old-fashioned rivalry. All of these attributes are incorporated within NASCAR. As I previously stated, the drivers are indeed physically fit. They need to be in order to withstand “going around in circles.” They require some mental aptitude in order to perform and win. And as far as competition goes, just look at all the T-shirts my fellow country bumpkins don to the races. Those good ol’ boys and gals get fired up over their favorite drivers. These three simple points meet the requirements for belonging to America’s revered sports history. By the way, in reference to my “unpatriotic thinking,” NASCAR fans are some of the most patriotic people I know. ‘Merica!

SPOTLIGHT ON SPORTS

Compete in Semper Fit Center’s Combine

Are you as good as a pro? Participate in the Semper Fit Center Combine, open to everyone on base, from Feb. 20 to 22, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the gym in Semper Fit. There will be events such as the shuttle run and the vertical jump. For more information, call Jason or Kelly at 254-7597.

Single Marine & Sailor Program’s Surf and Turf 5K

Come out for the Surf and Turf 5K, April 6 at 6:30 a.m. The run will takes you from the Officers’ Club through the Kaneohe Klipper Golf Course, and along North Beach. This event is open to the public. Visit <http://www.mccshawaii.com>.

Swing into the Klipper Junior Golf Program

All authorized patrons ages 6 through 17 are eligible for the Klipper Junior Golf Program, a year-round program to bring children and teens to the game of golf. Certified PGA Professionals will teach basic playing skills, rules and golf etiquette. Each session is five weeks long. Classes are held Wednesdays and Saturdays from 4 to 5 p.m. for the younger beginning golfers and 5 to 6 p.m. for the more experienced golfers. Juniors can bring their own clubs or the staff can provide them. Collared shirts are mandatory. Tennis shoes or golf shoes are acceptable dress. For more information, visit <http://www.golfacademyhawaii.com> or call 386-3500.

shoes or golf shoes are acceptable dress. For more information, visit <http://www.golfacademyhawaii.com> or call 386-3500.

21st annual Haleiwa Metric Century Ride

The 21st annual Haleiwa Metric Century Ride is scheduled for April 28 at 7:30 a.m. For more information call 735-5766 or visit <http://www.hbl.org>. Forms are also available at the Semper Fit Center.

3rd Marine Regiment’s The Beast 10K

Take a running tour of MCB Hawaii with our first 10K of the season, The Beast, March 9 at 7 a.m. at Dewey Square. The race will begin and end at Dewey Square. This race is open to the public. Online registration closes March 5 at 4:30 p.m. Visit <http://www.mccshawaii.com> to register.

Roll down for cosmic bowling at K-Bay Lanes

Glow-in-the-dark games at K-Bay Lanes are available Fridays from 9 p.m. to midnight, Saturdays from noon to midnight and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information about K-Bay Lanes, call 254-7693.

Amendment to base order for water activities

As of December 2012, base order P1710.1 was revised. On page 1-7 of the base order, paragraph 6b(2)

(b), the words “swim at own risk” were replaced with “enter the water at your own risk, surf and currents are moderate.” On page 1-7, in paragraph 6b(2)(c), the words “YELLOW: Water activities open, enter the water at your own risk, fins are required when swimming, due to high surf or strong currents,” have been added.

Give up using tobacco with cessation classes

Free tobacco cessation classes are held every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon. The classes are conducted by a registered nurse and take place on the second deck of the branch medical clinic. There are four classes in a session and each monthly session begins on the first Tuesday of the month. The classes are open to active duty, retired military and their dependents. For more information, contact health promotions at 254-7636.

Youth sailing classes now offered

Sailing and water sports classes for ages 8 and older are offered monthly. After school sailing classes are for beginners, and are on Monday and Wednesday from 3:15 to 5:15 p.m. Students will learn beginner to intermediate skill building. The racing class is Tuesday and Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. Students will learn the intermediate to advanced racing theory and tactics and train for racing in Hawaii Youth Sailing Association regattas. For more information, call the outdoor recreation and equipment center 254-7666.

VP-9, from B-1

a promising lead once again as the game wore down to the final moments.

“We got the victory but there are some things the team needs to work on,” said Terri Robinson, VP-9 head coach. “There is always something you can get better at and hopefully we’ll learn from a few mistakes and come back with another victory next game.”

With a final score of 56-43, VP-9 added one more victory onto their nearly perfect record of 7-1. The team is now tied for first place with Combat Logistics Battalion 3.

“They’re a good team with great shooters,” Guevara said. “I wish the score would have been different but it was a fun game and that’s what this whole league is for, to come out after work and have fun.”

Jonas Guevara, a forward for Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24, takes a leap toward the basket during their game against Patrol Squadron 9 at the Semper Fit Center gym, Tuesday.



Lance Cpl. Jacob D. Barber | Hawaii Marine



Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke | Hawaii Marine

Evan Spearbrooks, a member of the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 Warriors, sets himself up to swing at a pitch during an intramural baseball league game against the Patrol Squadron 9 Golden Eagles at Riseley Field, Tuesday. The game ended, 17-6, with the Eagles taking the win from the Warriors.

VP-9 Golden Eagles soars above MALS-24 Warriors

Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

The Patrol Squadron 9 Golden Eagles defeated the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 Warriors, 17-6, at Riseley Field, Tuesday.

The Golden Eagles had a slow start to the game, but when they warmed up their bats, it didn’t take long for runners from the top to the bottom of the lineup to round the bases and score runs.

The Warriors were the home team and took to the field on defense to start the game. Their defense quickly shut down the Golden Eagles’ contact on the baseball and quickly had the Eagles running out into the infield to start the bottom of the inning.

Unlike the Golden Eagles, the Warriors started scoring quickly. The first inning was completely controlled by the Warriors’ defense and offense. The Warriors earned runners on base with walks to start the inning. A single and a double brought in three runners, allowing the Warriors to leave the first inning with the lead.

Both teams’ pitchers controlled the second inning, striking out three players to retire their halves of the inning.

The Golden Eagles began their rally in the third inning with two runners earning bases with the help of walks. These runners stole bases to get into scoring position, allowing for the batters to hit them home with ease. Singles and doubles flew out of the infield. The Golden Eagles produced nine runs with

the combination of walks and solid contact on the baseball, giving them a sizable lead from which to grow for the rest of the game.

As the Golden Eagles pitching continued to take off, the Warriors offense struggled to connect on the ball. Pete Dahlstrom, a member of the VP-9 Golden Eagles, threw more than 10 strikeouts.

“We have a solid pitching staff,” said Cary Buel, a member of the VP-9 Golden Eagles from Pass Christian, Miss. “If we can pitch like this for the rest of the season while having an error free defense behind him, we will have a good season and a promising post-season.”

At the end of the third inning, the Golden Eagles led the Warriors, 9-3.

They carried their rally into the fourth inning, dominating both sides of the baseball.

At the top of the fifth inning, the score stood at 17-3, with the Golden Eagles flying past the Warriors. The Warriors attempted a strong comeback but only managed to score three runs in their half of the inning.

The game ended in the fifth inning due to the run rule. The ending score was 17-6 with the Eagles taking the win from the Warriors.

“We are dangerous when we hit the ball and play together, and tonight is a great example of that,” said Thomas St. Pierre, a member of the VP-9 Golden Eagles. “We plan to have a great season and dominate the rest of the competition.”



Lance Cpl. Nathan Knapke | Hawaii Marine

Andrew Little, a member of the Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 24 Warriors, rounds third base while attempting to score at home plate, Tuesday. The Eagles won, 17-6.



Top 3 – Reduce, Reduce, Reduce!

Take a guess at our top three environmental objectives for Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

- 1. Reduce h_____ m_____ use.
- 2. Reduce h_____ w_____ we generate.
- 3. Reduce e_____ use

Achieving these is significant in sustaining our mission, community and the environment. We may not be able to eliminate them, but we can surely reduce our dependence on them. Success in achieving these rides on us. We simply start by thinking about what we’re doing at home and at work. Everything we do impacts the environment in some way.

Before doing it, ask yourself if the impact is good or bad. For instance, visit the base’s Re-Use Self Help Room in building 6407 before buying or throwing away hazardous home and auto care cleaners. They accept and give away usable household and auto care products from residents on base, including propane tanks.

Reusing items instead of trashing them prevents pollution in our landfills and oceans and saves us money! To achieve the third objective, simply start by turning off the lights as you leave a room. Simple changes make a big difference. Start today.

Answers: 1) hazardous material 2) hazardous waste 3) electricity



Crime Prevention Tip of the Month

Effective March 1, parking is only authorized in marked parking stalls. Parking on grass areas throughout Marine Corps Base Hawaii is unauthorized (base order 5500.15B). Violators will be cited accordingly.

PMO contact numbers and locations

To report suspicious activity/behavior or for non-emergency calls, contact the desk sergeant:
257-1018/2123 (building 1096)

For information regarding check in/out, fingerprinting, or weapon registration, contact:
257-6994 (building 1095)

For information regarding pet registration, fishing regulations, or lost/found animals, contact the PMO Game Warden:
257-1821 (building 3099)

For information regarding vehicle decals, base passes, and vehicle registration, contact:
257-2047/0183 (building 1637/1095 for MCB Hawaii)
477-8734/8735 (building 601 for Camp H.M. Smith)

For information regarding traffic regulations, citations, or traffic court, contact the Traffic Court bailiff:
257-6991/6992 (building 1095)

For all other numbers not listed, contact base information:
449-7110

For more information, visit the PMO website:
<http://www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil/Departments/ProvostMarshalsOffice.aspx>

Topic of the Month

Military and civilian police officers do their best to enforce the base orders, Marine Corps orders, and State of Hawaii laws aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The MCB Hawaii community can help the Provost Marshal's Office in their mission, to protect and serve, by reporting all suspicious activity immediately. Those that call PMO to report suspicious activity or to report a known violation can remain anonymous; no personal information is required from the caller. At the minimum, when reporting suspicious activity, please provide PMO with the location, a description of person(s) involved, and the suspicious activity witnessed. To report suspicious activity, call the PMO desk sergeant at 257-2123. Also, if you witness a traffic violation on base you can report the incident by way of a third party citation. Please visit the MCB Hawaii website at <http://www.mcbhawaii.marines.mil> to utilize the Third Party Traffic Citation system. For more information on the third party citation system, call the traffic bailiff at 257-6991. PMO's Crime Prevention Division can also assist MCB Hawaii residents with organizing and starting neighborhood watches. For more information on neighborhood watches, please contact the Crime Prevention Division at 257-8312.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, DIAL 911!

CUB SCOUT PACK 225 CELEBRATES LUNAR NEW YEAR, CUB SCOUT BIRTHDAY



ABOVE: Cub Scout Wolf Owen Shell has his face painted ceremoniously during Cub Scout Pack 225’s annual Blue and Gold Banquet in building 1090b, Saturday.
RIGHT: Cub Scout Bear Tyler Framjee feeds a hungry lion for good luck. This year, the pack’s banquet celebrated the Chinese Lunar New Year and the Cub Scout program’s birthday.



Photos by Kristen Wong | Hawaii Marine

Participants enthused to ‘Choose to Lose’

Christine Cabalo
Marine Corps Base Hawaii

The best losers will be the biggest winners in “Choose to Lose,” a new program sponsored by all Oahu military commissaries to reward weight loss with prizes.

Shoppers at Marine Corps Base Hawaii’s commissary will be able to register at the store through March 2, tracking their weight loss and exercise activities until the program ends in June. All participants will receive a T-shirt and coupons, and the top scorers at each commissary will compete for a grand prize. Brad McMinn, the Hawaii commissaries manager for the Defense Commissary Agency, designed the program.

“‘Choose to Lose’ is intended to be a catalyst to provide a program for all our patrons, active duty service members, their spouses and children, guard and reserve, and retirees to begin a lifestyle

change through proper diet and exercise,” he said.

A person’s score is compiled by earning points for healthy activities and losing body fat. A total of 80 percent of their score will be based on the percentage of fat lost, and 20 percent will be from activities.

People who register will regularly weigh in at the commissary and receive a passport to health card to track their progress. Each commissary will award a grand prize to the winner of each category: active duty service members, spouses, retirees and children who are 18 years old or younger.

Participants can earn a daily point for performing healthy activities, including exercising on their own or working out at the gym.

“People can do a group exercise class or other sports events for points,” said Beckie Page, assistant manager, Semper Fit Center. “If they bring the pass to

an instructor, they can check a box for the day.”

Page said other base events would also count for points, including the Commanding Officer’s Fitness Series races held through June. Each of the commissaries will also hold regular semi-monthly fitness events, featuring a fun walk, demos for nutritious cooking, coupons giveaways for healthy foods and more.

“We have the resources available for people to succeed,” Page said. “It’s up to individual to work at it, and they need the commitment.”

Participants can also show their commitment by earning points in other ways, including speaking with a dietitian about their eating habits. Dietitians from Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu offer monthly nutrition classes at Kaneohe Bay and are available during each commissary’s fitness events.

“The biggest goal here is to achieve weight reduction,” said Brian Tatum, store director, Marine Corps Base Hawaii commissary. “We also want to let people know about the products available, educating them about wholesome foods that are healthier for them.”

Tatum and McMinn said the program is a joint effort between each base’s agencies to pool their resources for the biggest community impact. McMinn said he thinks the program can improve each customer’s quality of life.

“Many medical issues can be controlled through proper diet and exercise,” McMinn said. “If we have long-range success in altering people’s unhealthy lifestyles, the (TriCare Alliance) team hopes to have an effect on those medical costs in the future.”

When faced with the potential of becoming healthier, McMinn said 130 people on Oahu have already signed up and made the choice to lose.

Hawaii Marine Lifestyles

BIG SHRIMPIN'

GIOVANNI'S SHRIMP TRUCK IS A GEM IN THE NORTH SHORE AREA

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Suzanna Lapi

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

KAHUKU, Hawaii — Giovanni's Shrimp Truck, located on Kamehameha Highway in Kahuku, is not much to look at. The white, dilapidated vehicle is covered in graffiti and looks like it could never run. But looks can be deceiving. The delicious smell of garlic shrimp wafting in the air was my first hint this little truck has potential hidden within its run-down exterior.

In 1993, Giovanni's got its wheels turning as the first shrimp truck on the North Shore. In 1996, they parked in Kahuku and set up shop, and then opened another location in Haleiwa the following year. Locals spread the word about the little food truck with a lot of flavor, creating a legend from humble beginnings.

Upon closer inspection, the graffiti is the markings of satisfied customers. A large pavilion in front of the truck offers plenty of room and picnic tables to enjoy a shrimp lunch or dinner in the warm Hawaiian breeze.

The menu offers four simple choices: shrimp scampi, hot and spicy shrimp, lemon butter shrimp and a jumbo garlic hot dog. Their most popular dish is the shrimp scampi. Each shrimp meal is offered for a reasonable \$13 compared to restaurant prices. The garlic hot dog is \$3.50. Every dish is served with white rice, or guests can purchase macaroni salad for \$1.50. The drink choices are water, sodas and green tea. They also sell fresh coconut water and shave ice, which are nice treats to cool down with after eating their hot and spicy shrimp.

Shell Russell, a Giovanni's employee for approximately a year, says the secret is in the sauce.

"Our sauce is addictive," Russell said. "Its flavor appeals to a lot of locals and tourists, and that's what sets us apart."

LaRoy Penix, a satisfied customer who visited Giovanni's while vacationing with his father, couldn't agree more.

"I asked a tour guide for a good place to eat in the North Shore area and she immediately suggested Giovanni's," said Penix, a native of Atlanta. "I consider myself to be a foodie and a good cook and to me, this is simple, good food. They use diced garlic

instead of garlic flavoring, which makes the sauce stand out. You can't beat shrimp, butter and garlic."

The national and international contest-winning hot and spicy sauce and scampi marinated shrimp is served approximately 500 to 600 times a day, according to Giovanni's part owner Sean Nitsche.

"Customers frequent our truck so much because they enjoy

our flavors," Nitsche said. "They say we are the best due to the quality of our product, and without their applause, we wouldn't be here. We want to say 'thank you' to every one for their support."

If you're looking for a simple meal within a simple

setting, bring a big appetite to Giovanni's. Also, bring cash, since they don't accept credit cards. This unpolished gem on four wheels offers no-fuss dining, after which you can leave your mark following a satisfying meal.

While taking in the scenic views of the North Shore, keep an eye out for the big original white shrimp sign that stands in the back of an old, white pickup truck. Giovanni's Shrimp Truck offers mouth-watering shrimp dishes ranging from mild to very spicy.

Customers order from the simple yet delicious menu of Giovanni's Shrimp Truck, in Kahuku, Hawaii, Feb. 8.



PASS IN REVIEW

Your weekly guide to the best aspects of entertainment

Welcome to the Pass In Review, your number one source for cinema, music, video game, book and product reviews. The Pass In Review crew consists of more than 10 critics, each with their own idea of what makes a movie, album, game, product or book great. So be sure to take advantage of the Better Know A Critic section, which spotlights this week’s critics to better help you choose the critic with opinions most like your own. Using our breakthrough four-point scale system, you can quickly decipher what is worth your time and what isn’t, or read the full review for an in-depth analysis and explanation of the rating. The rating system uses ammunition and range terminology, so if you’re not familiar, here’s a quick breakdown of the ratings ...

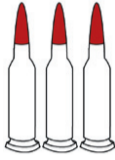
1/4 — No Impact, No Idea
Horrendous. Among the worst of the worst in its genre. Dedicating time to this is not only wasteful, but unforgivable. Avoid at all costs.

2/4 — High And To The Right
Mediocrity at its best. Lacks a few things that might have made it really good. A decent time waster, partake only if there’s nothing better to do.

3/4 — On Target
Praiseworthy. A great endeavor, not quite an instant classic but still very entertaining. This is a sound investment of your time.

4/4 — Confirmed Kill
Genius. In the top 10 percent of its genre. This is the stuff legends are made of. Missing out on it would be a disservice to yourself.

So, there you have it and we hope you enjoy our weekly reviews. Don't forget, the Hawaii Marine accepts submissions from its readers so if you consider yourself a film buff, music aficionado, gaming geek or bookworm, feel free to submit your own reviews.



Better Know A Critic



WONG

Kristen Wong admits she sometimes has to be dragged to movies that she later finds to be outstanding. She loves movies that make her care about the characters and sympathize with their plight. She enjoys action, fantasy, comedy and dabbles in horror.



CABALO

Christine Cabalo believes every person goes to the movies hungry. Audiences feed on movies that astound and amaze. The movies most likely to astound Christine have clever plots. Her favorites include action, adventure, mysteries and epics.

Let the ‘Warm Bodies’ hit the floor

Kristen Wong

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Picture “Wall-E” with zombies. Most of civilization lies in ruins after a cataclysmic event, and the remaining humans have isolated themselves from the home they knew in order to survive. But in the midst of it all, there is a solitary figure with the key to restore what once was.

“Warm Bodies” begins after a non-specified infection has spread throughout the nation. It has possibly infected the world, but they only focus on the U.S. The non-infected humans have barricaded themselves behind a giant wall to escape the disease-riddled zombies, occasionally emerging cautiously to gather whatever food and supplies they can salvage from the wasteland they were forced to abandon.

A young zombie (Nicholas Hoult) who doesn’t remember anything about his human life, except that his name started with an “R,” keeps a daily routine of wandering listlessly among his fellow zombies at the airport, grunt-chatting with his zombie friend “M” (Rob Corddry) and occasionally hunting for humans to eat.

What sets R apart from the other zombies is what set Wall-E apart from the other robots. Somehow, somewhere inside, he has the heart of a human. Like Wall-E, R collects random items on his hunts, including a snow globe, a bobble-head dog and sunglasses. He makes himself a home in an abandoned airplane,

listening to classic rock on an old record player.

During one of his hunts, R meets Julie (Teresa Palmer), whose father Grigio (John Malkovich) leads soldiers who patrol the barricade and kill zombies. Julie is on a mission with fellow companions to retrieve supplies from the outside. R is immediately smitten by Julie, but is shot by Julie’s boyfriend, Perry. The bullet does very little except grab R’s attention, and he devours Perry.

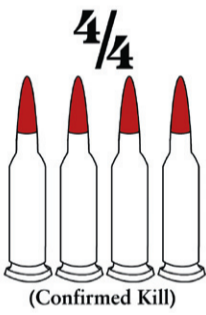
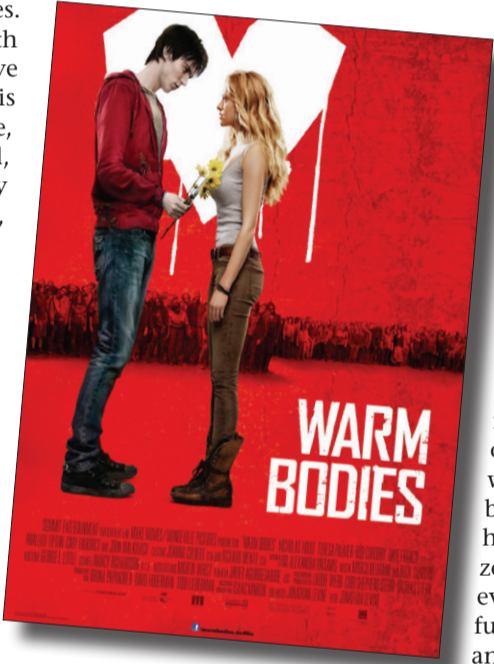
As the rest of her crew has either died or is hiding, Julie tries to kill R, to no avail. R rubs his scent on her face so she blends in with the other zombies. Reluctantly, Julie follows R to his airplane home. Julie soon realizes that there’s something very human about R, and there may be a way to stop the zombie invasion for good.

It’s a simple story with no frills. It’s a fresh perspective considering most zombie movies are about killing them, not healing them. The overall

theme is not new. It’s yet another movie that acts as a mirror to humanity and teaches us to value life, imperfection, differences, and to love each other. It’s very similar to the themes found in “Pleasantville” or “Dark City.”

This movie brought out the English major in me since I had to write one too many analytical papers in college. It also slipped in a little something for the hopeless romantic in me. It’s the kind of romance that tempts you to elbow your boyfriend in the side and whine, “Why don’t you jump out the window with me in your arms to save me from the nasty skeletons?”

Go see this movie, at least once, for what will probably be the only handsome zombie you’ll ever see. It’s fun, it’s sweet and yes, a bunch of zombies still die, just not the good ones.



‘Hansel and Gretel’ tells stale tale

Christine Cabalo

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

Audiences lured in by the eye candy of the new movie “Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters” are doomed to get burned.

The R-rated film expands on the German fairy tale, and functions on the premise that the two children have grown up to become witch hunters for hire. Hansel (Jeremy Renner) and Gretel (Gemma Arterton) are famous for their exploits, especially since they are unusually immune to spells or curses. Their latest case involves tracking down the witch responsible for kidnapping almost a dozen boys and girls. The mystery behind the disappearances leads to a darker plot, which reveals why the duo’s parents abandoned them as children.

“Hansel and Gretel” would never be an Oscar contender with this premise, yet could have been an endearing cult movie. But all this sweet potential is soured as the movie dragged on.

The plot is like stale gingerbread — it is bland and crumbles easily. The movie started off interestingly enough, but plot holes and predictable story lines weigh it down. Without much meat to the plot, the filmmakers rely too much on buckets of gore as a 3-D gimmick and excessive swearing instead of actual comedy. The filmmakers shoot for Quentin Tarantino-style jokes and bloodshed, but end up with rotten results.

The movie’s villain, the dark grand witch Muriel (Famke Janssen), has an evil scheme that’s too easily uncovered.



When her plans are revealed, there’s nothing else left for the characters to do other than graphically dispose of her coven of witches one by one. This could have been more entertaining if there was more of a surprise to her agenda, maybe by bringing in another unlikely literary character like the Pied Piper. Anything else would have been better.

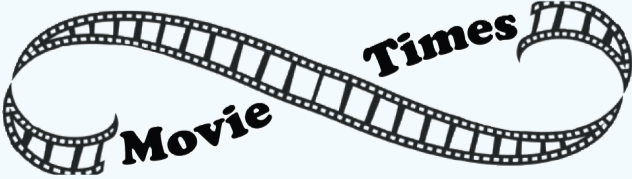
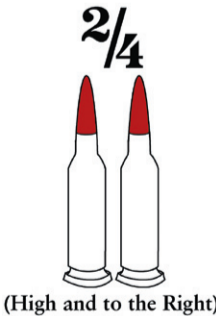
After wasting all those opportunities, “Hansel and Gretel” has a few treats for viewers. Renner and Arterton are surprisingly believable as a caring brother and sister action team. There’s a feeling of close camaraderie between them, and some of the few genuinely funny moments come from their buddy dynamic.

The pair lives in a pretty, steam punk fantasy world. There are lovely scenes of the Germanic woods, which are central to the original story. Their costumes make them look like leather-clad superheroes.

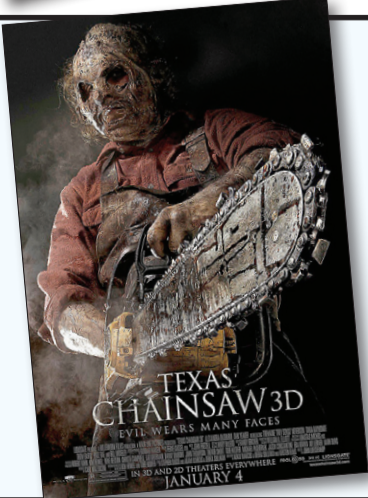
The filmmakers aren’t afraid to poke fun at the premise, but with mixed success. Hansel is diabetic from his first witch encounter. There are, however, tongue-in-cheek anachronistic jokes, which distract rather than amuse. A scene features glass milk bottles wrapped with parchment prints of the missing children. Where did residents of a rural German town find rubber bands, glass and paper for the notices?

The fantasy element also loses steam when the duo’s weapons grow too powerful. They carry semi-automatic crossbows, but later pull out a Gatling gun from nowhere. Why don’t the duo carry the firepower with them all the time?

The film’s post credits sequence sets up the characters for a sequel, but most viewers will probably have lost any appetite for more.

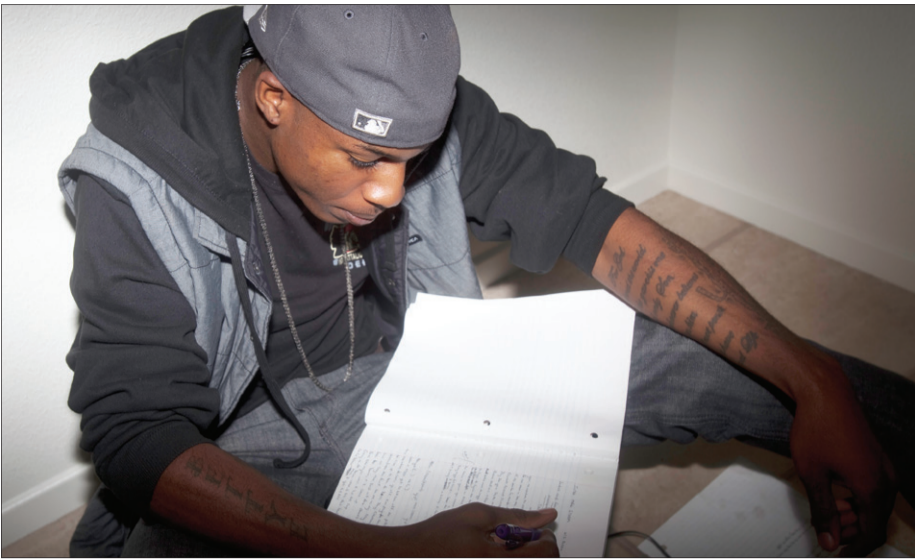


Prices: All shows are \$3.25 for adults and \$2.25 for children. For ticket pricing, the Base Theater Box Office defines an adult as a patron 12 and older and defines a child as a patron from 6 to 11. Children 5 and younger are admitted free of charge. Parents must purchase tickets for R-rated movies in person at the box office for children 16 and younger. Patrons must present their military identification card when purchasing tickets. Call **254-7642** for recorded information.



- “Texas Chainsaw” R Today | 7:15 p.m.
- “Zero Dark Thirty” R Today | 9:45 p.m.
- “Gangster Squad” R Saturday | 7:15 p.m.
- “A Haunted House” R Saturday | 9:45 p.m.
- “Les Misérables” PG-13 Sunday | 2 p.m.
- “Zero Dark Thirty” R Sunday | 6:30 p.m.
- “A Haunted House” R Wednesday | 6:30 p.m.

A story through rhymes: Marine rapper reflects on emotion



Lance Cpl. Jacob D. Barber | Hawaii Marine

Cpl. Floyd Brown Jr., a field artillery cannoneer with Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, has written and produced more than 200 rap songs under his nickname, Flosstarz.

Lance Cpl. Jacob D. Barber

Marine Corps Base Hawaii

An uncomfortable silence fell over the massive crowd of teenagers as Floyd Brown Jr. stood center stage for his first ever rap performance. The talent show was packed. In the sea of faces, Brown could see his teachers, peers and bullies waiting for the music to bounce off the gymnasium walls of Redlands East Valley High School in Redlands, Calif., in 2008. As the music started, he lifted the microphone and began to “spit” a catchy rhyme he had practiced

Cpl. Floyd Brown Jr., aka Flosstarz, “spits” a freestyle before writing a new song.

endlessly. But as the beat dropped, so did his concentration. The song he knew so well suddenly became unknown and forgotten.

Embarrassed, the young junior stormed off the stage. He couldn’t lose. Minutes later, he returned with a new, unexpected game plan and a thirst for redemption.

Brown passed by the stage and made his way into the aisles of the crowd as the music started for a second time. With his voice synchronized to the thump of the bass, Brown started taking poetic jabs at every guest within sight. The act wasn’t practiced and his words weren’t written down on paper. His “freestyling” display and quick thinking made the crowd cheer and roar in laughter. The moment was one he never forgot.

Five years later, Cpl. Brown

serves as a field artillery cannoneer with Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Base Hawaii. Since then, he has written and produced more than 200 songs. Many of the tracks were influenced by his past as a child, growing up in Los Angeles, Fontana and Redlands, Calif. Others reflect on his life as a Marine. Particularly losing a friend in Afghanistan.

“Throughout my life, I’ve had to balance strong emotions,” Brown said. “My cousin was killed when I was a teenager and it caused sadness, anger, and all different types of feelings I kept bottled up. I was expelled from different schools, grieved at the loss of a few close friends, and struggled to maintain a clean life in a harsh neighborhood. Through writing, I was able to put the emotions on paper as a means to vent. I would just write what I was feeling, and before I knew it, the paper would be full and I had a new song.”

During a deployment to Afghanistan in 2010, Brown released a mixtape called “Black Out”

“The name of the mixtape says it all,” Brown said. “We lost a Marine brother in Afghanistan, and after that happened, there was a wave of uncertainty. Will I be alive tomorrow? What if I don’t make it home? It was these questions that were the foundation for the mixtape. The Marines loved it because I was connecting with them. I wasn’t talking about getting girls, buying cars or jewelry. I was in Afghanistan, missing my family and hoping to make it back home. That’s what I wrote about.”

A pen and a pad of paper is all Brown needs to connect with the world, whether he’s entertaining fellow Marines during a packed show at the barracks or performing for large crowds at events in Honolulu.

“He’s tal-

ented,” said Dewann Childress, Brown’s manager. “If you want to know who he is as a person, just listen to his music. Modern day hip-hop has forgotten the importance of spoken word and replaced that with a catchy beat you can dance to. That’s not hip-hop. When Brown raps, his lyrics carry the song. The beat could be the worst ever made and I feel he would still make some heads nod. People want to hear what he has to say.”

Bettye Shante Carr-Brown, Brown’s wife and biggest critic, said she believes her husband stands out when categorized with modern day rappers.

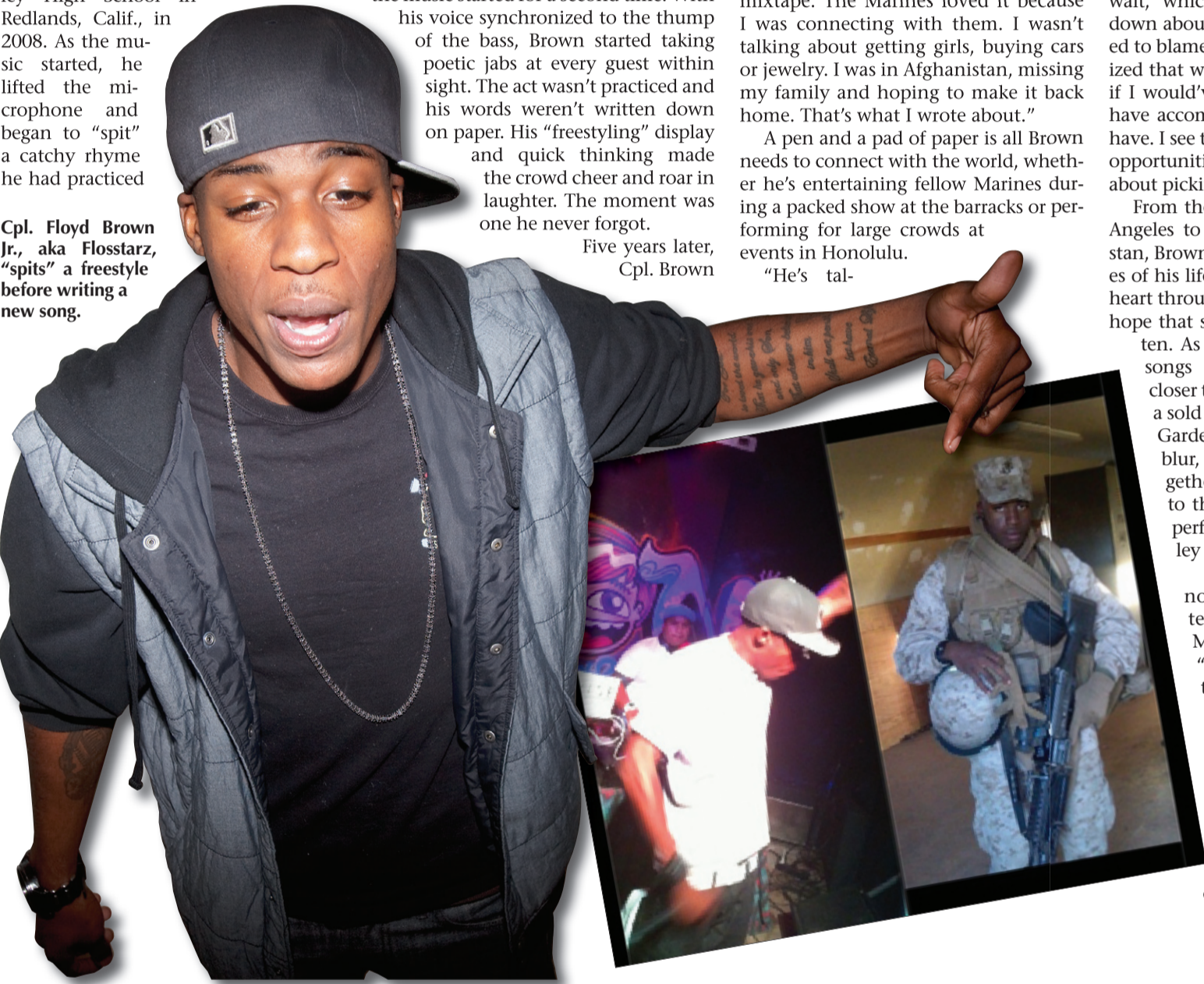
“Based off talent, we need more rappers like him,” Carr-Brown said. “We live in a world now where networking is everything and the stars we see in the lime-light are not always the most talented. He continues to get better and has the support of everyone he is around, including the Marines with which he has served and currently serves.”

Though Brown recently reenlisted in the Marine Corps for a second term, he strives to bring his music to new places and continue building a strong fan-base of Marines and civilians.

“I passed up a deal with a representative of Def Jam Records so I could finish my first enlistment,” Brown said. “I had one more year left and they wouldn’t wait, which is understandable. I was down about that for a while and I wanted to blame the Marine Corps. But I realized that without the uniform I wear, or if I would’ve never enlisted, I wouldn’t have accomplished nearly as much as I have. I see that now and understand that opportunities come and go ... it’s just about picking the best one for yourself.”

From the hard neighborhoods of Los Angeles to the uncertainty of Afghanistan, Brown has chronicled the challenges of his life on paper. He has spilled his heart through a microphone — all in the hope that someone, somewhere will listen. As notebooks pile up and more songs are recorded, Brown comes closer to his dream of performing for a sold out crowd in Madison Square Garden. He wants to witness the blur, a mirage of faces blended together in a massive crowd, similar to the moment in which he first performed at Redlands East Valley High School.

“Brown is going to make it, no doubt about it,” said Master Gunnery Sgt. Lloyd West, a Marine who oversees Brown. “He’s got talent, but more than that, he works hard. As a Marine, he is one of the best I’ve ever had under me, and as a man, he continues to perfect his craft. Wherever he goes from here, whether it is a career in the Marine Corps or a million dollar record contract, he’ll flourish.”



THE MEAT AND POTATOES OF LIFE

:

The Modern Housewife revealed

Lisa Smith Molinari

Contributing writer

Every morning at about 9 a.m., a little ray of sunshine comes through the window of my kitchen and ruins my life. It taunts me, mocks me, and points a gleaming spotlight directly on my flaws, exposing them to the world.

I am not sure if that beam of light is a random act of nature, or a call to action. All I know is that it shines right on what I thought was my relatively clean floor, clearly magnifying a shocking amount of dog hair, fuzz, crumbs and dirt.

Each time this truth is revealed, I grimace and run to the laundry room to grab the broom, mop and dustpan. As the shaft of light moves around the room, I follow it, frantically extracting the newly discovered filth.

Some days, I wonder if my reaction to this exposure is healthy. Do a few crumbs really matter in the whole scheme of things? Is there something wrong with me because I want my floor to be clean? Am I “anal-retentive?” Do I have obsessive-compulsive disorder?

Over the years, philosophies on the importance of cleanliness have run the gamut. The best-known adage, “cleanliness is next to godliness,” has biblical roots, and similar proverbs about the spiritual benefits of being physically clean are found in both the Talmud and the Koran.

Now that leprosy and “The Plague” are no longer a worry, the maxims of modern society attach a negative stigma to cleanliness as if it were a disease itself. Refrigerator magnets tell us, “Immaculate homes are run by dull women.” Paperweights and coffee cups suggest, “An untidy desk is a sign of genius.”

Somewhere in the 1980s, use of the Freudian term “anal retentive” became trendy, showing up in “you might be” lists and Saturday Night Live skits making fun of people who thrive on order and control. Similarly, the psychological label “obsessive-compulsive disorder” has become a part of pop culture, as evidenced by the fact that it is the primary feature in TV shows like “Monk,” “Obsessed,” and “The OCD Project.”

Today, one can’t wash one’s hands without being labeled a “germophobe.” One can’t dust the knick knacks for the risk of being branded dull and boring. One can’t reorganize the junk drawer without being called “anal-retentive” or “OCD.” But, do these popular terms really just provide the Me Generation with another excuse to be selfish by implying that cleanliness is a sign of dysfunction or lifelessness?

During bunco last week, some fellow military wives and I chatted during a break in play.

“I hate dusting,” I said, and a few others agreed.

“How about stubble in the sink, drives me crazy.”

“But hair on the bathroom floor is the worst,” another wife offered, and we all gave approving nods.

“Guys don’t even notice. There could be tumbleweeds of hair rolling around on the tile, and he will still stand there, obliviously rubbing his hairy rear end with a towel.” Shaking our heads, we all felt her pain.

The banter went on, covering issues such as the dehydrated peas and carrots under the fridge, the dust on the fan blades, the unmentionable substances behind the toilet seat, and gloppy hairballs in the drains. We all agreed that there is nothing more satisfying than putting the crevice tool on a Shop Vac and sucking it all up – the dust, the hair, the old candy wrappers under our teenage sons’ beds, and the peanuts between the couch cushions. None of us was ashamed or embarrassed to admit it – we like our houses to be clean and tidy.

Notwithstanding the negative stereotype good housekeeping has been assigned by pop culture, the fact remains that most people want to live in a tidy house. Despite modern society’s attempts to grant merit to tolerating mess, the virtues of cleanliness persist.

That is the truth that is illuminated every day by that pesky little ray of sunlight that shines through my window. Call it godliness or OCD, as long as the sun continues to shine, I will run and get my broom.

<http://www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com>



Courtesy photo

‘Veterans of Color’

Presented by the Honolulu Museum of Art’s African-American Film Festival

The film festival is scheduled for Feb. 26 at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., at the base theater aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

Directed by Mark Parry, “Veterans of Color” tells the stories of the African-American men and women who have served in our nation’s Armed Forces. From World War II through Vietnam and more recent armed conflicts, “Veterans of Color” chronicles the heroic service of soldiers who had to conquer the enemy while battling for equality.

For more information about the Honolulu Museum of Art and the Honolulu African American Film Festival, visit <http://www.honolulumuseum.org/event/films>.



BASE, COMMUNITY EVENTS, VOLUNTEER LISTINGS

Koko Head Complex hosts 14th annual Easter Eggstravaganza

Honolulu’s Department of Parks and Recreation and the Koko Head Complex are sponsoring “Easter Eggstravaganza,” an event for the entire family, featuring activities, games, and an Easter egg hunt at Koko Head District Park, March 23. The park is located at 423 Kaumakani St. in Hawaii Kai.

The free event begins at 9 a.m. with registration and simple carnival games administered by community groups. At 10 a.m., an egg hunt will be held for ages 12 and under. All participants receive a goody bag.

For more information, contact Arlene Ling, parks director, at Kamilo Iki Community Park, 395-5314, or Donna White, Koko Head Complex supervisor, at 395-3407.

Be prepared with Baby Boot Camp

The next Baby Boot Camp is scheduled for March 6 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in building 216. Baby Boot Camp is a childbirth education and infant care class for all parents. Parents learn about labor and delivery, infant care, understanding their newborn, safety and much more. For more information, call 257-8803 or visit <http://www.mccshawaii.com>.

Help the hungry, needy at IHS

The Institute for Human Services is the perfect place for organizations and groups to cultivate team building and give back to the community. Volunteer opportunities range from providing, preparing and serving meals for the needy, cleaning shelters on a daily basis, painting, landscaping in garden areas or sorting donations.

Volunteer groups should contact IHS to schedule a volunteer date by emailing volunteer@ihs-hawaii.org or by calling 447-2842.

Join Hanauma Bay Education Program

Consider volunteering at Hanauma Bay if you have an interest in sharing information with park visitors. All volunteers must attend volunteer training, commit to a period of six months, and be at least 16 years of age.

Younger volunteers may be considered if they volunteer as a team with an adult. Applications are available online or by mail. For more information, visit <http://hbep.seagrant.soest.hawaii.edu/>.

Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation’s Hawaii Chapter to hold 2013 annual Family Education and Research Summit

The Hawaii Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation will hold its 2013 annual Family Education and Research Summit, March 9, at the Kapiolani Medical Center for Women and Children in Honolulu from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. JD RF is the leading global organization focused on type 1 diabetes research.

The goal of JD RF is to improve the lives of every person affected by T1D by accelerating progress on the most promising opportunities for curing, better treating and preventing T1D. The summit will feature Dr. Sanjoy Dutta, senior director of treat therapies, JD RF New York, and chef, restaurateur, author and TV personality Sam Talbot.

For more information or to register, contact JD RF Hawaii at HawaiiEvents@jdrf.org or 988-1000.